

PURINA

Today's Breeder

A Nestlé Purina Publication Dedicated to the Needs of Canine Enthusiasts

Issue 81



BREEDER PROFILE

Bo-Bett Whippets & Italian Greyhounds

Diving Into a Dog Sport

Nutrition That Matters

Spotlight on Cover Dogs

The READERS' PAGE



The winner of the DCA National Field Trial this spring was a female standard Wirehaired Dachshund, FRL Edelweiss Von Lowenherz. Posing with "Edelweiss" are, from left, the Absolute Trophy sponsor Alice Moyer, judges Julie Couch and Connie Fisher, owner-handler Gail Binder, and judges Janet Schwalbe and Alan James.

This spring at the Dachshund Club of America (DCA) National Field Trial in Shawsville, Md., I had the pleasure of judging the event along with Julie Couch, Connie Fisher and Alan James. We got to see many great working dogs, connect with friends and enjoy wonderful meals provided by the Maryland Beagle Club.

The winner of the Absolute Award, the highest honor bestowed on a Dachshund field trial dog, was FRL Edelweiss Von Lowenherz, owned and

handled by Gail Binder of New York. With her keen nose and tracking abilities, "Edelweiss" won out of 120 dogs entered in the National.

Many thanks to our sponsor, Purina, and to members of the Metropolitan Washington Dachshund Club and the Dachshund Fanciers Association of Berks County, who worked so hard to put on this event.

Janet M. Schwalbe
Pendergrass, GA

Fall 2013 National Specialties at the Purina Event Center

| Event | Date |
|--|-----------------|
| Border Collie Society of America | Sept. 2-8 |
| Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America | Sept. 9-13 |
| Ibizan Hound Club of the United States | Sept. 10-13 |
| Pharaoh Hound Club of America | Sept. 10-13 |
| United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club | Sept. 20-22 |
| American Manchester Terrier Club | Sept. 21 |
| Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club of America | Sept. 24-28 |
| Bearded Collie Club of America | Sept. 28-Oct. 4 |
| Basset Hound Club of America | Oct. 6-11 |
| Old English Sheepdog Club of America | Oct. 15-19 |
| English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association | Oct. 29-Nov. 2 |

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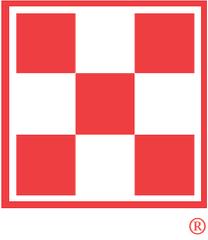
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PURINA *Today's Breeder*

A Nestlé Purina Publication Dedicated to the Needs of Canine Enthusiasts

Issue 81

From the Editor

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4 DIVING IN

The joy of training dogs for field trials and conformation shows begins to sink in when dogs excel at their sports. Success is often a stepping stone to a professional career. Four enthusiasts share their stories, telling how they learned from others and gained an appreciation for working hard to achieve great things.

10 NUTRITION THAT MATTERS

The dog fancy asks a Purina veterinary nutritionist whether it is safe to feed dogs a raw diet and about *Purina Pro Plan Select Grain-Free Formula*. A review of the three *Purina Pro Plan Sport Formulas* for hardworking and active dogs explains why it is important to feed a food with the appropriate protein-to-fat ratio.

12 A WONDERFUL LIFE

Bo-Bett breeder Carol Harris says the harder she works, the luckier she gets. Growing up with a love for dogs and horses, this breeder of more than 500 champion Whippets and Italian Greyhounds was honored in 2009 as the Outstanding Breeder of the Year. Her innate ability to recognize the attributes that produce superior dogs is noteworthy.

18 NORTHWOODS' MAGIC TOUCH

A second career breeding and training bird dogs gives Jerry Kolter and his wife, Betsy Danielson, great satisfaction. The English Setters and Pointers they develop at their Northwoods Bird Dogs Kennel are sold to hunters and field trial competitors, who often send them letters about how they enjoy the dogs as much for their companionship as their hunting skills.

20 A SURE-FIRE RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Finishing a dog's conformation championship title has always been a mark of success. The introduction of the American Kennel Club's Grand Champion title has brought more finished champions back into shows and made the Best of Breed judging even more competitive. Taking time to assess a dog's potential is more important than ever before beginning a Specials campaign.

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On Our Cover

CH Bo-Bett's Treasure Chest ("Cheslie") is an almost 2-year-old female Whippet bred and owned by Carol Harris of Bo-Bett Farm in Reddick, Fla., and handled by Justin Smith of Sugar Valley, Ga. Cover photo by Melissa Miller. See story on page 12.





Dividing In

BY MELISSA MILLER

In the beginning, it was something new. As they learned how to handle and train their dogs, it became more. *TB Magazine* is pleased to feature these ambitious enthusiasts who are making a mark in their sports.

No Time to Sit Still

As a teenager, Tera Lanczak didn't like to sit still. She preferred to run, with her brown ponytail bobbing, through the marshes of Saginaw Bay, Mich., hunting ducks and geese with her uncles and their bird dogs.

After high school, she got a job guiding pheasant hunts at a local preserve.

"It was an amazing way to work with Pointers and Labrador Retrievers," Lanczak says.

The adrenaline rush she got from seeing a Pointer's stylish point on game or a Labrador's perfect retrieve come together in just a few seconds is what drew her in. When she wasn't hunting, she worked the night shift as a paramedic.

Today, Lanczak trains young Labrador Retrievers for field trials full time at her Bay Blue Kennels in Au Gres, Mich., from May to November. In winter, Bay Blue relocates to Giddings, Texas. Though she specializes in Labradors, her training career started with two German pointing breeds: Shorthairs and Wirehairs.

In 2003, Lanczak volunteered to help professional bird dog trainer George Hickox at his training seminars in exchange for the opportunity to learn from him. She began attending clinics Hickox held across the country, where he taught owners how to train their dogs for upland hunting and field trial competition.



Lanczak prepares *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula* for her hardworking retrievers.

A professional retriever trainer since 2008, Tera Lanczak releases Knaack's Knee Deep Nayanquing on a land retrieve during a training drill.

"No matter what I aspired to do, I always sought out people who were the best in the business," Lanczak says. After a few years, Lanczak wanted to do more with her bird dogs, and so she taught them to retrieve. She began competing with them in North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association events, where dogs are required to track, point and retrieve on land and in water.

In 2006, she reached out to professional retriever trainer Karl Gunzer of High Spirit Retrievers in Polson, Mont., to learn more about retriever training. Gunzer has finished numerous field

Blake Hansen, a professional all-breed handler who specializes in terrier breeds, is shown with Skansens Jose Cuervo, a Giant Schnauzer.



Hansen trims "Cuervo" before going in the show ring.

champions and competed annually with multiple dogs in the National Open Championship. He invited Lanczak to join his staff at his winter training grounds in Lexington, Texas.

Gunzer taught Lanczak the importance of keeping dogs on a consistent schedule to help prevent stress. "When you change their schedule, whether it is by a minute or five minutes, you've changed the rules on them," she says. "These dogs thrive on a routine."

Bill Eckett of Blackwater Retrievers in Center-view, Mo., then offered Lanczak a job starting derby dogs. Eckett, who specializes in training field trial retrievers, has finished 65 Field Champions and won four National Championships.

Training the young retrievers, ranging from 8 weeks to 3 years old, taught Lanczak patience. "You have to be patient to observe and learn to read a dog's true intentions before you can appropriately react and train the dog," she says.

As for her career stats, Lanczak has handled dogs to 18 placements since 2008, but competing is not her priority. Rather, she concentrates on laying the groundwork to teach young retrievers the basics, so their owners may experience success in the field or at competitive events. A couple of times a year, though, she competes in or attends trials to measure the performances of dogs she's trained.

"At Bay Blue, we measure our success by our graduates' success," she says.

A Homework Assignment

Blake Hansen's first dog show was a homework assignment. His mother, Eva Marie Hansen, was learning to groom dogs and was assigned to go to a local dog show in Orlando, Fla. She brought 10-year-old Hansen with her.

"I saw some of my friends gaiting their dogs in the ring, and that sparked my interest," says Hansen, of Merritt Island, Fla.

He and his mother began showing dogs and entering grooming competitions together. "It was a family thing for us," he says.



Hansen started competing in American Kennel Club (AKC) Junior Showmanship. In 2007, he was the No. 1 junior handler of terrier breeds in the country and the top junior handler in Florida. In 2008, at age 14, he handled the Kerry Blue Terrier, CH War Lords Rebellion at Kingael ("Beau"), to Best of Breed at the AKC National Championship in Long Beach, Calif.

Earlier that year, he traveled to Stockholm, Sweden, to compete in the World Dog Show Junior Handler Competition with the Kerry Blue Terrier, CH Kerifields Hurricane Charm. It was his accomplishments with another Kerry Blue Terrier, GCH Edbrios Stradivari ("Ziggy"), that got Hansen thinking about professional handling as a career. He and Ziggy won Best of Breed at the prestigious Montgomery County Kennel Club all-terrier dog show in Blue Bell, Pa., in 2010. That same year, Ziggy won Best of Breed at the AKC National Championship in Long Beach, Calif.

Hansen learned the ropes as an assistant to several professional handlers: Tracy Deloria, Jamie Clute, Larry Cornelius and Marcelo Veras, Vanessa Fleming, Kirsten McGregor, and Frank and Maureen Jewett. Working with them taught him about the business aspect of handling, including time management and proper care of dogs.

"Working for a handler is probably the biggest part of becoming a handler yourself," Hansen says. A full-time professional all-breed handler for two years, Hansen focuses on finishing show champions and building a client base. He continues to specialize in terrier breeds, partly because he loves their fiery spirit. He enjoys handstripping their coats, the tedious process of pulling out the dead outer coat by hand to allow a new wire coat to grow in.

Persistence is important when getting started, Hansen says. "You're going out against the very best



every weekend," he says. "These are people who have been doing it for years. You lose a lot more than you win."

In the past year, Hansen has won several Bests of Breed and Group Firsts with a 3-year-old Brussels Griffon, GCH Marsdon Frankly Speaking ("Frank"). In 2012, Frank won the American Brussels Griffon Association Regional Specialty in Louisville, Ky., outperforming more than 150 dogs.

Steve Taddy prepares to train his hounds for two-couple pack field trials. The Beagles are, from left, Maple Grove Red Gal, Long Hollow Singer, Long Hollow Chunk (partly hidden), and Long Hollow Black Velvet, MH.

Hansen recently began giving back to the AKC Junior Showmanship program by judging junior competitions. In the future, he would like to become a conformation judge and possibly breed Wire Fox Terriers.

All About Teamwork

For Steve Taddy of Reedsville, Wis., winning two-couple pack field trials is all about teamwork. "I like the idea of putting together a pack of four hounds that is judged on how well they work as a team," Taddy says.

In 2011, Taddy placed fourth in the United Beagle Gundog Federation Two-Couple Pack Nationals



Long Hollow Black Velvet, MH, was part of a pack that in 2011 won the UBGF Two-Couple Pack Nationals and the first Two-Couple Pack Federation Nationals.

in Morgantown, Ky., and won the first Two-Couple Pack Federation Nationals in Sullivan, Ind.

Taddy's father had Beagles, and he grew up loving their friendly, good-natured personalities. "They're easy to work with, and there's nothing cuter than a Beagle puppy," he says.

In 2005, Taddy bought his first registered male Beagles to go rabbit hunting. A few years later, he joined the Lakeshore and the Fox River Beagle clubs. In 2009, he started running Small Pack Option (SPO) field trials, where dogs are judged individually on their enthusiasm and ability to track a rabbit as part of a pack. When he participated in his first two-couple pack competition later that year, the challenge of working with a hound team drew him in.

"People think it's easy to put four dogs together

and make them run the right way with the right style in the right progression to drive that rabbit," Taddy says. "It's not. You have to have dogs that will do different things in your pack."

He competed in both events for a while. "I was new into it and wanted to see what I liked. My dogs at that time were better-suited to SPO," he says.

Taddy didn't have any idea what a good two-couple pack dog should be when he started, but he ran his dogs with others who helped him learn. Beaglers he trained with include Brenda Coker of Long Hollow Kennel in Gainesville, Tenn., and Ron Sickinger of Cal-Ron Beagles in Valders, Wis.

He has learned to look for hounds that are not aggressive and have the ability to track the rabbit in tough conditions. "They have to be able to run a rabbit, but they can't be overly competitive," Taddy says. "They have to be willing to accept the opportunity when it's there, but not push for their opportunity."

Mr. Man's Rock N Roll DJ was just such a dog. "DJ" was part of the pack, consisting of Long Hollow Black Velvet, Long Hollow Dozer and Long Hollow Cricket, that won the National Championship in 2011. The pack won 11 of 14 trials entered in Wisconsin that year.

In a reversal of roles, Taddy now trains hounds for Coker, who initially trained him. He puts in long days at his construction job and then trains Beagles 10 to 12 hours a week when he gets home. For Taddy, it's a labor of love.

"I just love being outside in nature, and it's neat to watch a young dog develop new skills," he says.

A Balancing Act

While other teenagers spend summers lounging at the beach, Kellie Dahlberg of Sarasota, Fla., lived with professional handlers learning to bathe, groom, feed and exercise show dogs.

Today, Dahlberg balances attending college full time and professional handling. She is working toward a bachelor's degree in accounting at State College of Florida and spends her weekends on the show circuit.

The breeder of Dahlberg's first dog, a Parson Russell Terrier called "Puzzle," suggested she get involved in dog shows through the 4-H Club show-



manship program. Dahlberg, who was 9 years old, entered 4-H Club shows with Puzzle, and then got involved in AKC earthdog and agility competitions, before sticking with Junior Showmanship.

With help from experienced handlers, she learned how to improve her techniques. Dahlberg learned the basics working for professional handler Rindi Gaudet of Summerville, S.C., and later for professional handlers Larry Cornelius and Marcelo Veras of Ocala, Fla.

Dahlberg has shown the No. 1 Australian Terrier, GCH Kambara's Zebulon ("Zeb"), for the past three years. The first Australian Terrier to earn an AKC Grand Champion title, Zeb set a breed record for the most Bests in Show, having earned six.

Dahlberg now shows GCH Temora Ri Diercc ("Mac"), who took Best of Breed in February at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show in New York. He also won Best of Breed last January at the Australian Terrier Club of America National Specialty in Palm Springs, Calif., and in December 2012 at the AKC National Championship in Orlando, Fla.

Though she plans to work full time as an accountant after college graduation, Dahlberg also wants to continue handling dogs professionally on the side. "The bond I have with the dogs is the most rewarding part, plus I love seeing them show well," she says. "I can't imagine not being involved in showing dogs." ■

Kellie Dahlberg, a college student and professional handler, is shown with GCH Temora Ri Diercc, an Australian Terrier.



A tack box containing grooming supplies is fundamental to working as a professional handler.



A Look At Raw Diets & More

TB Magazine invites you to send your nutrition questions to today'sbreeder@purina.com. Purina Research Scientist Dottie P. Laflamme, D.V.M., Ph.D., DACVN, who answers these questions, is boarded by the American College of Veterinary Nutrition. Dottie has more than 20 years' experience in the pet food industry and lectures worldwide on canine nutrition. She is the organizer and chair of the Nestlé Purina Companion Animal Nutrition (CAN) Summit, an annual international veterinary nutrition conference.

Q: Are there advantages in feeding dogs a raw diet? — Michelle Paullin-Brown, Ahram Kennels, Colton, Calif.

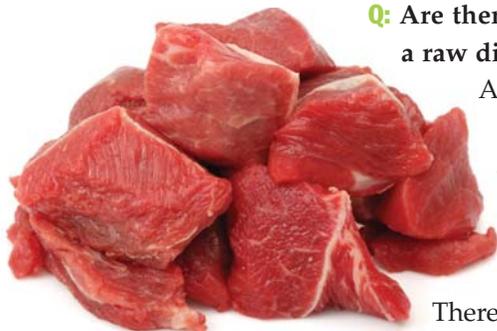
A: Proponents of raw food diets suggest that this type of diet is closer to what dogs evolved eating, and what wolves eat. There is evidence that raw food may

be slightly more digestible than some cooked foods, but there also is evidence of the opposite, depending on how the food is cooked. Otherwise, there is no published evidence of any nutritional advantages.

On the other hand, there is scientific evidence that there are possible risks associated with feeding raw bones and meat to dogs. Among these risks are injury or intestinal obstruction from the bones themselves, infection from parasites or bacteria present in raw meat or poultry, and even transmission of bacteria, such as *Salmonella*, to household members. Homemade raw diets also have been associated with nutritional imbalances, leading to skeletal problems in growing puppies.

Q: Why is synthetic vitamin K, which is also called menadione, included in dog food? — Susan Bell, Timberline American Eskimos, Athens, Mich.

A: Vitamin K is an essential nutrient for dogs, recognized especially for its important role in blood clotting. Menadione, the parent compound of vita-



min K, is converted to active vitamin K by bacteria living within the intestines of healthy dogs.

Q: The new Purina Pro Plan Select Grain-Free Formula contains cassava-root flour. I am not familiar with this ingredient. What is cassava-root flour and what nutritional benefits come from including it in dog food? — Kathy Shaffer-Guerreo, Sun Valley Newfoundlands, Lilburn, Ga.

A: The Pro Plan Select Grain-Free Formula contains cassava-root flour and pea starch, which are alterna-

tive carbohydrate sources for dogs. These ingredients provide glucose, an energy source that is essential to many of the cells of the body, as well as other essential nutrients. Cassava root is much like a potato. It comes from the starchy tuberous root of the cassava plant, which grows in tropical climates and is the source of tapioca. When properly processed and included as part of a complete diet, as it is in this super-premium dog food, cassava-root flour provides a digestible and nutritious source of dietary carbohydrate. ■



Cassava root

Pro Plan Customizes Protein-to-Fat Ratios for Performance Dogs

Canine athletes require proper nutrition in order to have the energy they need to support the extra demands of exercise. It is important to feed the right high-fat, high-protein performance formula to maximize training and conditioning and to boost metabolism and endurance.

Purina Pro Plan brand dog food realizes the importance of providing dogs with varying protein-to-fat ratios to give active dogs an optimal energy balance. Thus, Pro Plan offers three Sport diets for active and athletic dogs. Each formula provides complete and balanced nutrition for all life stages and is suited for a particular activity level.

"There's no doubt about it, diet alone can help change a dog's athleticism," says Purina Nutrition Scientist Brain Zanghi, Ph.D. "By feeding the right food based on an individual dog's activity level, an owner can improve a dog's athleticism."

"Active dogs benefit from an increasing proportion of protein and fat in their daily diet to fulfill their increasing need for calories and the increased protein metabolism that occurs naturally with exercise. Importantly, dogs that regularly consume higher protein and fat food will metabolically prime their muscles and metabolism, which will allow them to better adapt to exercise and have improved exercise endurance."

Active dogs need more calories from an energy-dense food to provide the greater energy required to maintain a stable body weight and support

their active lifestyle. Dogs fed a high-fat food have more capacity to burn fatty acids and a greater capacity to perform at an optimal level.

Canine athletes have a higher oxygen metabolism, or $Vo2_{max}$, than nonathletic dogs. This means that these dogs can use oxygen at a greater rate, thus providing more energy when exercising at maximum capacity, giving them increased aerobic energy and endurance. Endurance for dogs is based on how well their body can use fat energy. An optimized canine metabolism has an improved use of fat, which ultimately reduces the need for and depletion of limited sugar-energy stores in muscles and liver, known as glycogen. Fat oxidation provides most of the dog's energy at low rates of energy expenditure.

The Purina Pro Plan Sport Formula portfolio includes:

- **Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula** with 30 percent protein and 20 percent fat. This high-performance dog food helps to fuel metabolic needs and maintain lean muscle. It provides concentrated nutrition that helps to optimize $Vo2_{max}$ for increased endurance. It also has eicosapentaenoic acid, an omega-3 fatty acid, and glucosamine to help support joint health and mobility.
- **Pro Plan Sport Advanced 28/18 Formula** with 28 percent protein and 18 percent fat. This moderate-performance dog food helps fuel metabolic needs and maintain lean muscle. It contains amino acids that help nourish muscles, particularly in the crucial time immediately after exercise.
- **Pro Plan Active 26/16 Formula** with 26 percent protein and 16 percent fat. This low-performance dog food helps maintain lean muscle and ideal body condition by providing the energy needed by active dogs that participate in low-intensity activities. This performance dog food is easily digestible and helps promote optimal nutrient delivery.



Scan this QR code to learn more about the Purina Pro Plan Sport Formulas for canine athletes





A Wonderful Life

BY KAYLA MILLER
PHOTOS BY MELISSA MILLER

As the breeze ruffles through the grass and the Spanish moss hanging from giant oak trees, a pack of lean, well-muscled Whippets gathers around Carol Harris, forming a semicircle as they patiently wait their turn to be fed from her hands.

"Down!" she exclaims, as a rambunctious brindle-and-white female pushes to the front.

"Teaching them to wait patiently makes them better show dogs," she says. "It is part of the training process."

The splendor of the moment is captivating. Carol, the matriarch of the famed Bo-Bett Farm in Reddick, Fla., has dallied in dogs for almost 80 years. She grew up with a love for purebred dogs, particularly Scottish, Airedale and Smooth Fox terriers, and horses.

As a young woman, she developed an eye and love for breeding magnificent animals while living on her family's Flatbrook Farm in Sussex County, New Jersey. Her knowledge about breeding was a fusion of horse and dog genetics based on relating an animal's structure to its function. Hard work paid off.

At left, a radiant, beaming Carol Harris hand-feeds some of her Bo-Bett Whippets.

"The harder I work, the luckier I get," says Carol, who was voted by her peers as the Outstanding Breeder of the Year in 2009 and was nominated a second time in 2012.

Two Greyhound-looking breeds have dominated Carol's interest for the past three decades. Her success is notable. More than 500 champion Whippets and Italian Greyhounds, distinguished by their consistent breed type and superior quality, have been bred and raised at Bo-Bett.

After discovering Whippets in 1979, Carol said, "We who truly know Whippets call them the best-kept secret in the dog world."

When she got hooked on Italian Greyhounds in 1985, she said, "IGs are the second best-kept secret."

Bo-Bett is stamped on the history of both breeds. Multi-BIS/Multi-BISS CH Bo-Bett's Snow Bunny



Carol and her daughter, Wendy Winans, are shown with Italian Greyhounds, from left, CH Bo-Bett's Brianna Button, CH Bo-Bett's Abigail's Pride, Appraxin Bo-Bett P For Perfect, and Bo-Bett's Jump Shot.

won 16 Bests in Show to become the winningest Whippet bitch from 1991 until 2012. Among the high-achieving Italian Greyhounds, the top-producing sire, Multi-BIS/Multi-BISS CH Tekoneva's Dario, and the top-producing dam, CH Windriver Ruby Tuesday, were owned by Carol.

An Ideal Place

The Whippet and Italian Greyhound bloodlines came many years after Carol moved to Bo-Bett in 1964, after which she took a 15-year hiatus from showing dogs to focus on horses. Her father's friend, Charles Keiser, a Thoroughbred breeder and owner of Forty Oaks Farm in Ocala, inspired her to move.

Carol is shown with her current Whippet Specials, CH Bo-Bett's Quick Pick, left, and CH Bo-Bett's Treasure Chest.



"Charlie noticed my ability to breed and produce outstanding animals and persuaded me to visit," Carol says. "He said, 'Florida is an ideal place to raise horses and dogs.'"

Less than a year later, Carol and her three children, Allison, Wendy and Jeff, along with 12 Dalmatians and 32 American Quarter Horses, moved to Bo-Bett. Though she had bred Scottish Terriers for 10 years, Carol reluctantly decided to sell her stock. She enjoyed their tenacity and the challenges of hand-stripping their wiry coats but could no longer tolerate the constant rivalry between the terriers and Dals. Fond of the outgoing, loving temperament of Dalmatians, she had successfully bred and campaigned several top Dals under her Fulluvit prefix.

In New Jersey, Carol was well-known as a judge of Dalmatians and Scottish Terriers. Her friend and mentor, professional handler John Murphy, taught her "how to do everything well and nothing half-heartedly," she says. "John felt I had a good eye and working knowledge of a dog's conformation. He believed in my integrity. His confidence in me made a huge difference in my life."

Now living in Marion County, Florida, the horse capital of the world, Carol became the first woman to judge all the largest Quarter Horse shows in the country. Her homebred Quarter Horse stallion, Rugged Lark, won the Super Horse award at the American Quarter Horse Association World Show in 1985 and 1987. Lark became the only Super Horse in history to sire two Super Horses, The Lark Ascending and Look Who's Larkin.

After breeding several winning horses under the Bo-Bett name, Carol decided Bo-Bett was lucky and she would use it for her kennel prefix. A streak of breeding and showing German Shepherd Dogs and Doberman Pinschers in the 1970s was eclipsed by her introduction to Whippets. Watching the judging of Whippets while showing her Doberman one ring away, she says, "I was attracted to their beau-

tiful, athletic lines and their devotion to their owners and handlers.”

Carol bought her first Whippet, Triple Times Tara, from Randy Tincher, a Whippet enthusiast who trained horses. Though she intended for “Tara” to be a pet, the late professional all-breed handler Davin McAteer and his brother, Randy, helped her finish the hound’s championship title.

Breeding her Whippet bitches to an outcross male she bought from breeders Robert and Virginia Kimberley of Ocala, Fla., CH Bo-Bett’s Luke Skywalker, CD, LCM, ROMX, produced 12 champions. “Bunny,” the top-winning bitch, was a Luke granddaughter.

“‘Luke’ produced puppies better than he was,” Carol says. “When he was bred to the few bitches I had, he established a type of Whippet I still admire. These hounds had a versatile, elegant, yet athletic appearance, a balanced conformation, and an amiable temperament. He created a wonderful start for Bo-Bett.”

Bunny’s granddam, CH Misty Moor’s Divine Pleasure (“Deviny”), produced 24 champions, including Bunny’s dam, CH Bo-Bett’s Divine Dessert (“Creme Puff”). Three recent exceptional litters were whelped by another bitch, CH Lakes Carry Beyond Music (“Enya”), who Carol bought in 2001 from Mary Beth Lake of Sanford, Fla.

“Enya’s puppies all have her outstanding type and temperament,” says Carol. “I am usually tempted to keep the entire litter.”

In developing her bloodlines, Carol used tight linebreeding and outcross breeding. When she outcrossed, she looked for dogs with sound temperaments, good movement and correct conformation



CH Tekoneva’s Dario, an Italian Greyhound, center, is pictured with CH Bo-Bett’s Tommy Topaz, left, and CH Bo-Bett’s Peter Platinum, from his first all-champion litter out of CH Windriver Ruby Tuesday.

A Fancy for Greyhound-Like Breeds

The Whippet and Italian Greyhound share many similarities. Not only do they both look like small Greyhounds, they also are sighthounds, capable of running at fast speeds. Adored for their affectionate personalities, these breeds are intelligent, loving companions. Their athleticism makes them well-suited for a variety of sports.

The Whippet’s muscular power and strength balanced with elegance and grace depict a true sporting hound. The breed, which can run 35 mph, evolved with the English working class as a utility dog to provide rabbits for the table, racing sport and companionship. Weighing 28



CH Bo-Bett’s Lord of the Rings, a Whippet



GCH Bo-Bett’s Open Button, an Italian Greyhound

to 38 pounds, Whippets excel in conformation, agility, obedience, flyball, lure coursing and flying disc. They also are well-suited for therapy work.

Depicted in artwork from 2,000 years ago, the Italian Greyhound was a favorite of 16th century Italians, who prized them for their beauty, small size and sweet disposition. At one time, IGs were used to hunt small game. Weighing approximately 5 to 15 pounds, this healthy, hardy breed performs well in conformation, lure coursing and obedience. Alert and playful, IGs have a characteristic elegant, high-stepping gait.

type. The high-quality characteristics of her dogs have led many breeders to use Bo-Bett dogs as their foundation stock.

“Breeding is all about instinct, and mom has incredible instinct,” says her daughter, Allison Gaisford.

“Early on, I made breeding decisions without much intelligence,” concedes Carol. “I attribute my early success to pure luck. Success depends on relating the dog to its function, keeping in mind that temperament, health and breed type are the main ingredients.”

Reflecting on her contributions, Carol says,



CH Windriver Ruby Tuesday, the top-producing Italian Greyhound dam, produced 23 champions in six litters of 27 dogs sired by CH Tekoneva’s Dario.

“After 34 years in Whippets, mine have a smooth reach-and-drive gait, as they should, and after 28 years in IGs, their correct free, high-stepping gait is most noticeable,” she says.

A Mission to Improve the Breed

Essentially a toy dog counterpart to the Whippet, the Italian Greyhound caught Carol’s attention in the mid-1980s. She noticed people carrying the toy dogs everywhere at shows and wondered whether all IGs were extremely shy and would not walk confidently by themselves on a lead.

When she bought two Italian Greyhounds in 1985 from breeder Carl Sanders of Houston, Carol realized that not all IGs were timid. She finished



Carol uses a dremel to trim the nails of Multi-BIS/Multi-BISS GCH Bo-Bett’s Speed Demon, the No. 3 Whippet in 2011.

CH Zebec Zia (“Zipper”) and CH Zebec Zulu (“Lucy”). After buying and finishing CH Oxdals’ Fascinat’ Fella (“Lucky”), she set out on a mission to improve the breed’s sensitive temperament through breeding.

“IGs are not for everyone,” Carol says. “They are tough physically but mentally are not able to cope with lots of different types of people. For me, they are athletic, amusing cuddlers that won me over once I discovered they are so special.”

In 1990, Carol bought Tekoneva’s Dario, who would become the breed’s top-producing sire, from breeder Sondra Katz of Englishtown, N.J., over the telephone even before seeing the dog. She campaigned “Dario” to nine Bests in Show, three Bests in Specialty Show and 59 Group Firsts.

When searching for a foundation bitch, Carol admired the bloodline of “Ruby,” who would become the top-producing dam, and bred her to Bo-Bett’s Bill Cody in 1994. The litter produced three puppies, but only one survived.

The next year, Carol bred Ruby to Dario. All five puppies in the litter became champions. She repeated the breeding five times, and the litters improved each time. Twenty-three of their 27 offspring became champions, creating Dario and Ruby’s legacy.

A male, CH Bo-Bett Perry Peridot (“Perry”), sired 32 champions, and his son, CH Bo-Bett’s Bachelor Button (“Batch”), who was the Italian Greyhound Club of America’s top producer in 2009, has sired 16 champions. Batch sired GCH Bo-Bett’s Open Button (“Opie”), the No. 1 Italian Greyhound in 2010 and 2011 and the first IG to become a Grand Champion. He also sired CH Bo-Bett’s Red Button (“Red”), the No. 2 dog in South Africa in 2007.

“Dario is the most dominant stud dog in breed history,” Carol says. “I don’t know what I did to deserve Dario and Ruby. I just went along and enjoyed the ride.”

Bo-Bett Breeder Carol Harris Talks About Dogs

How did you get started in dogs?

As a child, no one in my family understood my obsession for animals, except my next-door neighbor, Isabel Robson, who was exactly my age. As I grew older, I read every dog book I could get my hands on. The Albert Payson Terhune Collie books became my bible. On my 10th birthday, my parents gave me a sable-and-white Collie pup, who I named Baronald Rex, and started showing. Although I have owned many breeds since then, including Dalmatians, German Shepherd Dogs, Doberman Pinschers, English Springer Spaniels, and Scottish, Airedale, and Smooth and Wire Fox terriers, I feel certain Rex established my love and understanding of dogs.



Fond of Scottish Terriers early in her career, Carol stacks CH Fulluvit Wee Mousie, the winner of nine Bests of Breed, in 1950 at the Morris and Essex Kennel Club Dog Show.

What is it like to raise Whippets and Italian Greyhounds together?

Raising these two breeds at the same time is fascinating. While they are similar in conformation, they are different in size and purpose. The Whippet is a sighthound originally bred to hunt, while the Italian Greyhound is a toy dog that was bred to be a beautiful, athletic, fun-loving dog.

How does the day begin at Bo-Bett?

A typical day starts at 7 a.m. Within half an hour, we feed 50 dogs and clean all the runs before we eat our own breakfast. We believe our dogs’ health and welfare always comes first.

How do you find families for your puppies?

I scout puppy buyers by getting to know them first. I inform clients of my expectations and stay in contact with them. They repay me by promoting my dogs better than I ever could do myself. I also like to give special dogs to junior handlers to provide them a head start in the ring.



Letting Dogs Have Fun

The hard work that Carol has put into producing top-quality Whippets and Italian Greyhounds continues today. She breeds about four litters a year, and puppies are whelped in a room close to Carol's bedroom so she can easily monitor their care.

The Bo-Bett philosophy on raising healthy, well-socialized dogs begins with puppies. Carol and her daughter, Wendy Winans, her kennel manager, devote lots of time to socialization. They often take them into town and walk them around people to help avoid shyness.

"It is so important not to pressure dogs but to let them have fun and enjoy what they are doing," Carol says. "When you get too serious about winning, a dog feels the pressure. Anytime I produce a healthy dog with good conformation and a sound temperament, I feel fortunate."

The 100-acre farm is ideal for Carol's 30 Whippets and 20 Italian Greyhounds, plus there are 35 Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds. Though she seldom exercises the breeds together, due to the difference in their sizes, the dogs spend the majority of the day outside running freely in large, fenced paddocks. Spacious indoor-outdoor kennels provide protection at night.

All the Bo-Bett dogs are fed *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula*. "Pro Plan Performance Formula helps keep these athletic dogs in top condition," Carol says. "It is why my dogs have slender, muscular bodies, high energy and smooth, glossy coats. I trust Pro Plan."

The Bo-Bett team includes professional handler Justin Smithey of Sugar Valley Kennel in Georgia and his assistant and girlfriend Cheslie Pickett of Chuluota, Fla., who handle most of Carol's dogs at shows. Carol was Smithey's friend and mentor when he was a junior handler.

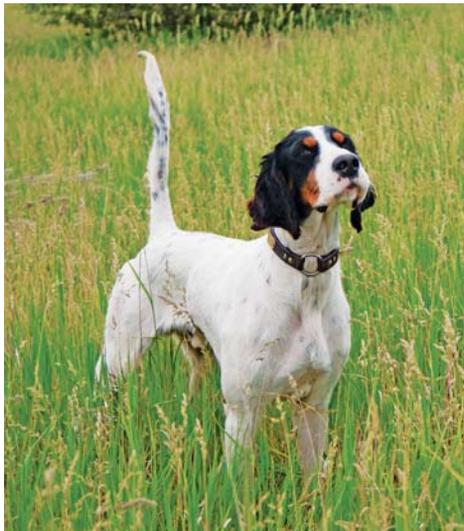
Besides her busy life with dogs and horses, Carol has enjoyed many interests. She is involved in the community and stays active with lots of friends.

Carol reflects that her greatest enjoyment in life has been her horses and dogs, and the people she has met through them. "My induction into the American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame and two nominations for Outstanding Breeder of the Year are at the top of my most wonderful experiences," she says. "I am not predicting anything for the future, except to enjoy these animals that I have been blessed to have. It's been a wonderful life." ■

Carol is shown with her children, from left, Jeff Winans, Allison Gaisford and Wendy Winans, who help manage Bo-Bett Farm. The Whippets are, from left, CH Bo-Bett's Treasure Chest, Sporting Field's Little Bo-Bett, CH Bo-Bett's Quick Pick, and CH Bo-Bett's Sally Sonata.



Jerry Kolter and his wife, Betsy Danielson, are pictured with Northwoods Led Zeppelin.



A top English Setter competitor on the horseback shooting dog circuit is Ridge Creek Cody, the 2012 National Amateur Pheasant Shooting Dog Champion.

NORTHWOODS' *Magic Touch*

Eight years ago, Jerry Kolter and his wife, Betsy Danielson, were city dwellers. Today, they own Northwoods Bird Dogs in rural Minnesota, a prominent breeding and training kennel and home to some of the top English Setters and Pointers in the country.

Though Jerry and Betsy compete with their dogs in walking stakes, one male English Setter, who they co-bred with Paul Hauge of Centuria, Wis., had enough power to compete on the horseback shooting dog circuit. Owned by Larry Brutger of St. Cloud, Minn., and handled by professional handler Shawn Kinkelaar, 2X-CH/RU-CH Ridge Creek

Cody won the prestigious Elwin G. Smith Shooting Dog Award in 2012 as the top English Setter in the country. The 4-year-old had begun to stand out in 2011, when he placed third in the U.S. Quail Shooting Dog Futurity as one of the few English Setters in a Pointer-dominated field.

Jerry trains his dogs for walking stakes and horseback trials almost identically, though it takes a dog with greater endurance to do well in horseback stakes. "The pace and ground covered in horseback stakes is twice that of walking stakes," Jerry explains. "As a result, a dog that competes in horseback trials needs to be more athletic, stronger, faster and mentally and physically tougher."

Living in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area for more

than 30 years, the couple was craving a more tranquil lifestyle. Jerry worked as a software developer, while Betsy was an information technology specialist. When they began the kennel in 2002 as a hobby, Betsy resumed her previous career as a landscape designer. In 2005, they sold their house and moved to Sandstone, Minn., a small town 90 miles north of the Twin Cities, and established Northwoods as a full-time business.

"Our longtime dream was to start our own kennel," Betsy recalls. "We wanted a simpler lifestyle, more privacy and the ability to see the stars at night."

The couple met in 1993, when a friend introduced them. They had mutual interests. Betsy worked for Pheasants Forever, the largest nonprofit organization in the country dedicated to upland habitat conservation, and Jerry was an avid field trial competitor.

While dating, Jerry and Betsy began competing in field trials with a female Pointer, the future 2X-CH Dance Smartly. In 1995, with Jerry handling "Dancer" and Betsy scouting, they won the Minnesota Grouse Dog Championship. Betsy, too, caught the bug for field trials. Two years later, they were married.

A three-time Minnesota/Wisconsin *Pro Plan* Cover Shooting Dog of the Year and invitee to the Grand National Grouse and Woodcock Invitational, Dancer became their foundation female Pointer. Jerry and Betsy use their Pointers to evaluate the training of their English Setters.

"Pointers dominate at the highest level of pointing dog competition, so we compare our Pointers to our English Setters in day-to-day training. That keeps us



Jerry practices steady to wing with Northwoods Porter.

realistic about the quality of our setters," Jerry says.

They began breeding bird dogs in 1995. An outstanding female, 4X-CH/4X-RU-CH Blue Streak, received her Champion and Runner-Up Champion titles all on wild birds, winning prestigious competitions such as the Pennsylvania Grouse and Wisconsin Cover Dog championships in 2001. "Streak" was the top English Setter cover dog and the recipient of the Michael Seminatore Setter Cover Dog Award in 2002. That same year, she won the William Harnden Foster Award, which recognizes the top cover dog of any breed. Placing at the Minnesota Grouse Dog Championship in 2001 and 2002, Streak finished her career in 2005 as the Runner-Up Champion of the Grand National Grouse Championship at 10 years of age.

Another prominent setter they've trained and handled for owner Hauge is Cody's dam, 2X-CH/4X-RU-CH Houston's Belle, one of the top point-earning grouse dogs from 2005 to 2008. "Belle" placed a record-setting three times in the Minnesota Grouse Dog Championship.

Jerry takes pleasure in breeding and developing bird dogs that he sells as hunting companions and field trial competitors. "Breeding dogs that fulfill people's dreams is incredibly satisfying," he says.

Northwoods produces four litters a year. The kennel, which has 20 indoor-outdoor runs, is adjacent to 2,000 acres abundant in native ruffed grouse and woodcock. It is the ideal setting for training bird dogs to hunt. All the dogs are fed *Purina Pro Plan* Sport Performance 30/20 Formula.

"We strive to produce all-around good dogs," Jerry says. "We want a calm dog with an even temperament and the physical ability to perform in the field."

This past March, they welcomed a litter of English Setter puppies out of Northwoods Chardonay, the winner of the 2011 Minnesota/Wisconsin *Pro Plan* Derby of the Year Award, who placed in every grouse trial she competed. The litter was their first sired by Cody.

As to their success, Betsy says, "Jerry has an innate ability to evaluate the whole dog and determine how to fit the individual pieces together. Breeding is part science and part magic." ■



Jerry positions Blue Riptide while teaching the dog to whoa.

A SURE-FIRE RECIPE *for* SUCCESS

BY SUE VROOM

Few things in life are more mysterious than the secret to success. People are fascinated with stories of outstanding achievement in the hope they will learn some sure-fire recipe for success. The dog fancy, too, is driven to learn the secret to success.

The fancy, in large part, is comprised of a broad spectrum of hobbyists and professionals who have a variety of aspirations, motivations and goals. Conformation exhibitors and breeders will tell you that their greatest thrill is when that 15th

point is awarded and their show dog attains a championship title. Their second greatest thrill is competing at the Best of Breed and Group level.

What exactly does the champion title indicate? Ideally, it validates quality. Statistically, after a dog earns a championship title, fewer than 20 percent continue to compete in the Champion class. Since May 2010, those statistics have become somewhat skewed with the introduction of the American Kennel Club's Grand Championship (GCH) program.

Breeder-owner-handler Colton Johnson gaits around the ring with Bugaboo's Picture Perfect at this year's Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. The Old English Sheepdog, called "Swagger," won Reserve Best in Show at 20 months old.





Professional handler Chris Berg is shown with AM/INT CH DePaco's Hollywood Goldbolt, an American Staffordshire Terrier.

Quality breed type, condition and expert presentation are expected for a competitive Best of Breed dog. Mistakes in presentation, poor training, lack of condition, and minor coat and grooming errors might be forgiven in a Puppy or Open class but should never be forgiven in the Best of Breed class. This is a Masters class comprised of dogs precertified to possess more than adequate merit and quality.

What is the sure-fire recipe for success? The first consideration before stepping into the competitive atmosphere of the Best of Breed arena should be an objective, unbiased assessment of the dog's potential by a qualified judge. The criteria for setting realistic goals should be commensurate with the conditions required for success. Expert resources, such as an experienced, credible mentor or a professional handler familiar with campaigning Specials, are essential.

The fundamental element is having a dog with above-average breed type coupled with stamina, mental and emotional stability, an attention-craving attitude, and the extraordinary aura of an all-star. A dog also must have a tolerance for constant grooming, travel and crating. The abilities to survive and thrive within the constraints of life on the road and a willingness to partner with a human handler are important. Such attributes are often untested in a class dog's exposure to shows, where most young, above-average dogs obtain their championship titles in short order.

Designing a show campaign requires expertise and experience to make decisions based on the dog's welfare. The beginning of a show campaign with a young Special requires getting multiple opinions. It is a time-proven fact that success is predicated on fundamental basics and the strength and depth of the winning components combined with pure perseverance and dogged tenacity. ■

A professional all-breed handler for 32 years, Sue Vroom and her late husband, Corky Vroom, won hundreds of Bests in Show during their career. Vroom, of Denton, Texas, works as an Executive Field Representative for the American Kennel Club. For information, contact Vroom at 940-497-4500 or by email at suevroom@centurytel.com.

Many finished champions have come back to the show ring to compete for the GCH title. Some owners are less motivated to win the Breed than to win the Select point award. The Grand Champion competition has given judges the opportunity to see and evaluate some really good dogs returning to competition and has thrilled many professional handlers. It has undoubtedly increased the difficulty for the every-weekend show champion to "get out of the Breed."

The Best of Breed or Champion class commonly is known as the "Specials" class. Webster's Dictionary defines special as "exceptional or highly valued." Does this realistically apply to all the dogs exhibited in that class? It is fair to say that judges should expect quality, and they are obligated to hold those competing in this class to a higher order than in the non-Champion classes.



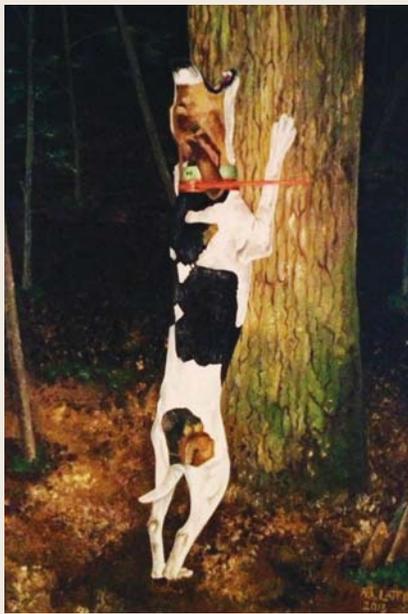
CIRCLE OF CHAMPIONS

Please visit the Circle of Champions on the Purina Pro Club website at www.purinaproclub.com to read about top-performing show and sporting dogs powered by Purina.

Purina Honors 2012 Coonhound and SPO Beagle Award Winners

Unstoppable 'Flirt' Wins Nite Hunt Award

Though small for her breed, a 3-year-old female Treeing Walker, called "Flirt," dominated the 32nd annual Purina Nite Hunt Award competition. GR NITE CH 'PR' Flatrock Stylish Flirt gave co-owner and handler Kevin Phillips of Columbus, Ga., his third Purina Award, taking the lead five months into the yearlong program. "Flirt was unstoppable," Phillips says. The winner of 17 of the 18 events she entered, including seven state championships, Flirt outperformed 4,409 hounds to win the award. She is co-owned by Chuck Baker of Seale, Ala. Flirt is fueled by *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula*.



Co-owners Kevin Phillips and Chuck Baker received this portrait of "Flirt" by artist Nathan Lattimer.

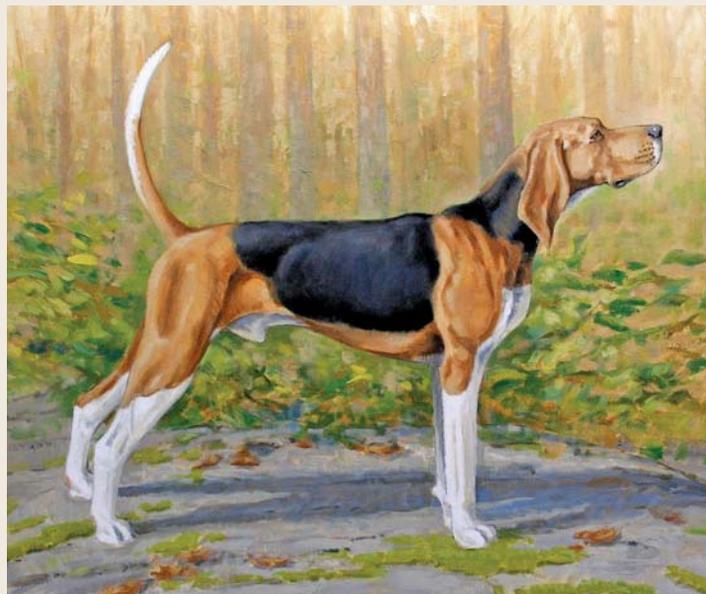
when he first saw the hound at 14 months old. A three-time Purina Award winner, Seets began practicing with Rock at fairgrounds before shows, turning him into a winner who outperformed 2,033 hounds. WCH NITE CH GR CH 'PR' Preachers John the Rock took five state championships and the American Coon Hunters Association World Show. Rock is powered by *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula*.

'Duke' Delivers His Best to Win Purina SPO Award

"Duke," the 2012 Purina SPO Beagle Award winner, is "a genuine rabbit dog who always gives 110 percent," says co-owner and handler Jay Long of Sunbury, Pa. The 5-year-old 13-inch tricolored male hound proved his keen ability to track a rabbit by winning eight field trials and placing in 21 of the 23 events he competed in. FC GD Shady Boy Gooch's & Brinsky's Lil Duke won the 14th annual award by outperforming 4,800 Beagles. He is co-owned by Gino Casseri of Warsaw, N.Y., and Eddie Gooch of Franklinton, N.C. Duke is fed *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula*.

'Rock' Shines in Winning Bench Show Award

Flashy good looks helped a 2-year-old male Treeing Walker, called "Rock," win the ninth annual Purina Bench Show Award. Handler Michael Seets of Stonefort, Ill., who co-owns Rock with his wife, Myra, knew he had "a diamond in the rough"



Michael and Myra Seets were presented this portrait of "Rock" by artist Ross Young.



Co-owners Jay Long, Gino Casseri and Eddie Gooch received this portrait of "Duke" by artist Valerie Dolan.



High Drive Rocky is the National Open Shooting Dog Champion.

High Drive Rocky Is National Open Shooting Dog Champion

A 4-year-old white-and-black male Pointer called "Buster" gave handler George Tracy of Summerhill Kennels in Glenville, Pa., his third American Field National Open Shooting Dog Championship when he won the prestigious event this year at Sedgefields Plantation in Union Springs, Ala. High Drive Rocky had six quail covey finds and one back during the 90-minute stake. Owned by Allen Linder of Livingston, Tenn., Buster is fueled by *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula*.

'Thrills' Wins Rare Best in Show for Curly-Coated Retrievers

Not every day does a Curly-Coated Retriever take Best in Show, but that's exactly what "Thrills," an 8-year-old male, and his co-owner and handler Suzanne Macre accomplished last year at the Astabula Kennel Club Dog Show in Hamburg, N.Y. Outperforming 864 dogs, Thrills joined an elite group of 10 Curly-Coated Retrievers to win a Best in Show. Multi-BISS CAN CH/AM GCH Down DaTrail Hunting Thrills, CD, CGC, AOM, is an enthusiastic, happy dog. He is co-owned by breeder Dennis Akins of Jacksonville, Ark., and Grace Kofron of Brighton, Wis., a junior handler. The retriever is fed *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula*.



Co-owner Suzanne Macre handles "Thrills" in the show ring.

Shadow Oak Bo Is First Setter to Win National in 43 Years

Seven quail finds and three backs is what it took for Shadow Oak Bo to win this year's American Field National Championship for Field Trialing Bird Dogs. A Pointer-dominated event, the championship was the first won by an English Setter since 1970. Handler Robin Gates of Leesburg, Ga., captured his third National Championship with help from son Hunter Gates who scouted. "Bo" is owned by N.G. Butch Houston of Nashville, Ga., and Dr. John Dorminy of Fitzgerald, Ga. The three-hour stake was held at Ames Plantation in Grand Junction, Tenn. Bo is fueled by *Purina Pro Plan Sport Performance 30/20 Formula*.



Shadow Oak Bo wins the National Championship for Field Trialing Bird Dogs.

'Columbus' Breaks Ground for Russell Terriers

A Swedish-bred Russell Terrier, named "Columbus," who came to the U.S. to be campaigned last June when the breed was recognized by the American Kennel Club, has set a tail-wagging example as the winner of 15 Bests in Show. The No. 2 terrier in the country, GCH Goldsand's Columbus has charismatic charm. Owned by Mark Ulrich of Sawyer, Mich., and Christina Areskough of Morbylanga, Sweden, Columbus is handled by Allison Sunderman of Hanover, Mich. The 4 1/2-year-old male, who also goes by "Bosse," is fed a combination of *Purina Pro Plan Focus Small Bites Lamb & Rice* and *Purina Pro Plan Select Sensitive Skin & Stomach* formulas.



A confident, charismatic terrier, "Columbus" has a springy gait.

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BREED SNAPSHOT

THE LAPPY

A Scandinavian Spitz Breed

A fairly new breed in the United States, the Finnish Lapphund, nicknamed the Lappy, was recognized by the American Kennel Club in 2011. Loyal enthusiasts began working to establish the breed in 1987. Though rare in this country, in his native Finland this sturdy, well-muscled herding breed is one of the most popular dogs.

Keenly intelligent and eager to please, the Finnish Lapphund is a quick learner and easily trained. Known for his sweet, soft face, which is likened to a teddy bear, he has a calm, friendly temperament. Besides conformation, the Finnish Lapphund takes part in agility, obedience, rally, herding, tracking, and therapy work.

Often described as being both an old and new breed, the Finnish Lapphund was developed north of the Arctic Circle before 7000 B.C. For centuries, he helped the Saame, or "Sami,"



farmers of Lapland, an area comprised of northern Finland, Sweden and parts of Russia, herd reindeer that were used for food and clothing. While his thick, water-repellant double coat protected him from extreme cold, it also made him intolerant of heat.

One of three Scandinavian spitz breeds, the Finnish Lapphund originally was called the Lapponian Shepherd, consisting of short- and long-coated dogs that were born in the same litters. Not until 1967 did the long-coated dog, the Finnish Lapphund, have a standard separate from the short-coated one, the Lapponian Herder. The Swedish Lapphund is the third spitz breed.

Beloved for his gentle, devoted nature, the Lappy is a medium-sized dog. Males are 18 to 21 inches tall at the shoulders, and females are 16 to 19 inches tall.

Sources: The websites of the American Kennel Club (www.akc.org) and the Finnish Lapphund Club of America (www.finnishlapphundclubofamerica.org).

